

Holiday Tree Fire Safety



A Holiday tree can remain relatively fire resistant if you follow these simple steps:



RECUT THE TRUNK at least one inch above the old cut as soon as you get it home. This allows it to continue to pull moisture into its foliage.



KEEP THE TRUNK IN WATER immediately after it is recut. Moisture is the key to keeping the tree fresh and thereby enhancing its fire resistance. If the tree will be kept outside for a few days, stand it in a bucket of water outside until you are ready to bring it indoors.



CLEAN THE STAND. Before placing the tree in a sturdy stand (appropriate for the size of tree), rinse the stand with a capful of bleach mixed in water. This reduces the growth of organisms.



LOCATE THE TREE AWAY FROM SOURCES OF HEAT. Avoid placing the tree near a heater outlet, wood stove or fireplace. Put it in the coolest location possible. Never leave a lighted tree unattended.

Caution: Be careful not to block a door with the tree or rearranged furniture.



CHECK THE WATER LEVEL IN THE STAND DAILY. Never let the water level go below the bottom of the trunk. Commercial floral preservatives can also be added to the water to help keep the tree fresh.



CAREFULLY CONTROL LIGHTS ON THE TREE. Miniture holiday lights should be used on trees. Standard-size holiday tree lights generate heat, which accelerate the rate of drying. Do not leave lights turned on for prolonged periods or leave them unattended.

Caution: *Make sure all electrical cords have no frays or cracked wires and broken sockets **BEFORE** placing them on the tree. Do not attempt to repair a worn light set! Throw it away and purchase a new replacement.*



REMOVE THE TREE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE HOLIDAYS. Even a properly cared for cut tree will eventually die. Take it to a recycle center or leave for your refuse collector.



Caution: NEVER burn a tree in a wood stove or fireplace. The rapid burning and excessive heat can damage the firebox and chimney creating a serious fire hazard.

Happy Holidays from CDF

For More Safety Tips Visit:

www.fire.ca.gov



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